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DOCUMENTS CROSS-REFERENCED

ATTACHED:

JCS 85-8656

JCS 85-8053

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Priority Saturation

FROM:

C/DCID 1/2 Committee

EXTENSION

NO.

ICS 85-8093

DATE

17 July 1985

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. DD/ICS
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5. ER

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7. DDCI *km*

23 JUL 1985

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C/DCID 1/2

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7-8
 Fred - Thanks
 this is
 reassuring

DCI
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L-109

SECRET/NOFORN

ICS 85-8093
17 July 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Director, Intelligence Community Staff *h*FROM:
Chairman, DCID 1/2 Committee

25X1

SUBJECT: Priority Saturation

1. Recently, you sent me a note expressing concern that continuing priority increases would soon "saturate the system." That possibility, of course, claims the Committee's constant attention, since it is critical to the usefulness and credibility of the priorities system. Our statistics (attached) indicate that growth in both the number and level of priority assignments over the past six years has been notably restrained in view the rise of a substantial number of major problem areas such as terrorism, narcotics trafficking, Central America, etc.

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2. I believe the growth curve in priority assignments at the top four levels is flattening out. Following a surge in the 1981-82 time frame, when the Community began to respond to problems such as those mentioned above, year-to-year increases have narrowed. The numbers for October 1985 will show this trend continuing. In conjunction with this year's annual review, we have established benchmarks at each priority level (Attachment C) as a basis for making more rigorous the determination of relative importance among requirements. The Committee is also engaged in an ongoing program of restructuring requirements topics and definitions, particularly in the economics and S&T areas, in order to make them more reflective of current user concerns and to make the priorities system as a whole more dynamic. The results of a number of these efforts have already been sent to you for approval, and several more will follow. (C/NF)

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3. I would be happy to discuss Committee operations with you in greater depth at your convenience.

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Attachments:

- A. Priority Level Changes
- B. Changes in Shape of Matrix
- C. Benchmark Priorities

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SUBJECT: Priority Saturation

ICS 85-8093

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